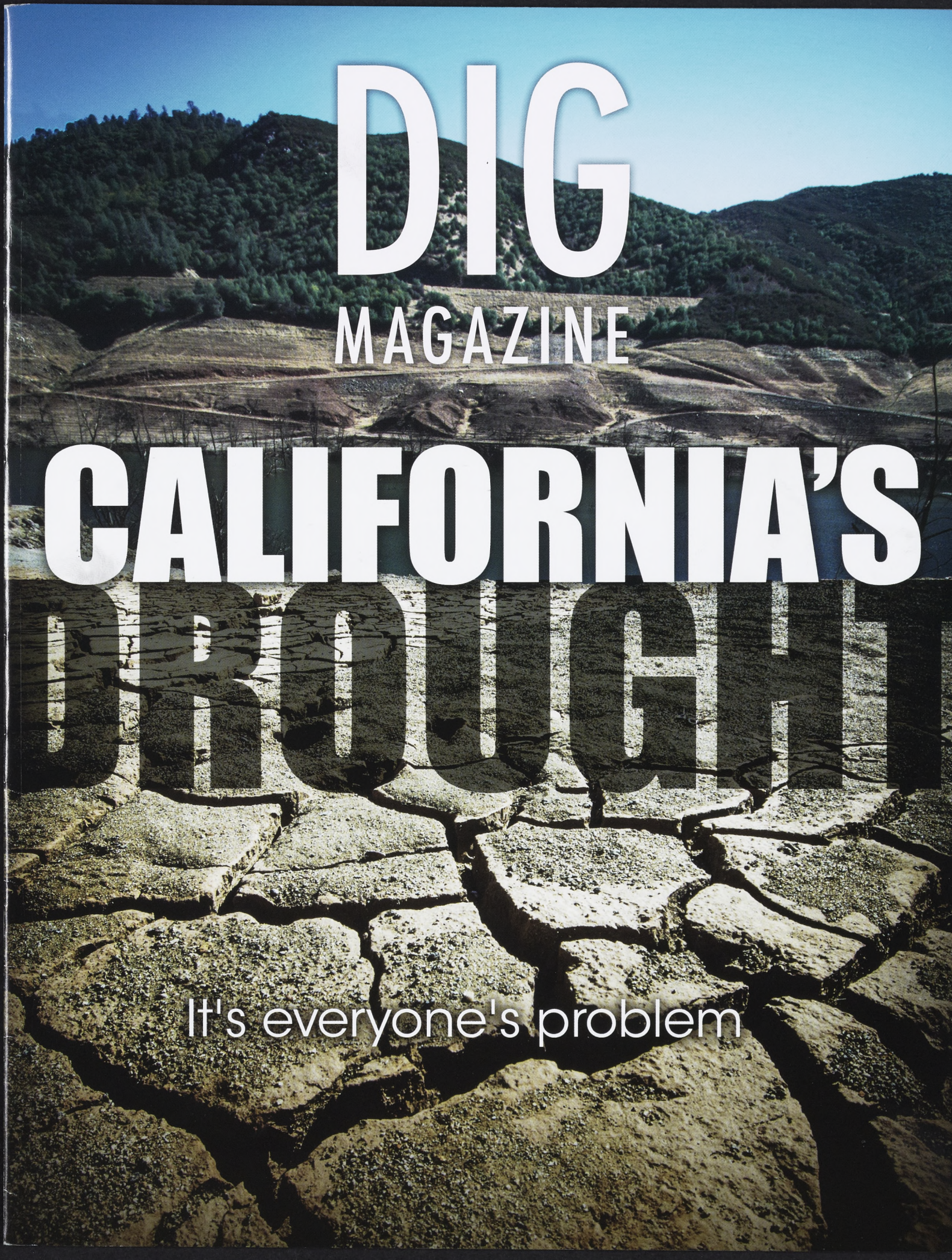
DIG
MAGAZINE
CALIFORNIA'S
DROUGHT
It's everyone's problem

EDITOR'S NOTE

BY DANIEL GOLDSBARY

The drought may seem like a strange topic for a university campus magazine to tackle. Half of you may pick up this issue and think: "We've still got water flowing out of pipes we can't even see. Where's the problem?" The other half may say: "That's it. We're doomed. California is going under and taking the country's agriculture with it."

Or you may not even be thinking about it at all. With midterms and projects bombarding you at every turn, how can you take the time to think about something that isn't affecting you right this second?

But I wanted to cover the drought because I feel that it's important to not just us, but also future generations. I don't think this drought will be the end of everything. If we don't change the way we consume and waste water, however, how bad might the next drought be? When I visit my home town and see my nieces and nephews, I imagine them going through a drought that's impossible to ignore.

In that spirit, we encourage you to open this issue with an open mind. There are a lot of ways to lessen your impact, and we've got simple tips and landscaping advice to help you start. We also take a look at how Long Beach and CSULB are addressing the drought, and we show in a beautiful – and alarming – photo essay how the lack of water is affecting certain parts of our state.

But it's not all about the drought: We also review a local restaurant intent on modernizing classic French dishes, explore the variety of experiences our very own study-abroad students have had while in our country, and delve into the discussion surrounding Generation Z, better known as the iGeneration.

We'd love to hear what you think. Send us your comments about the drought at digmageditor@gmail.com.

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Cover Photo by Sarah Borean

NOVEMBER 2014

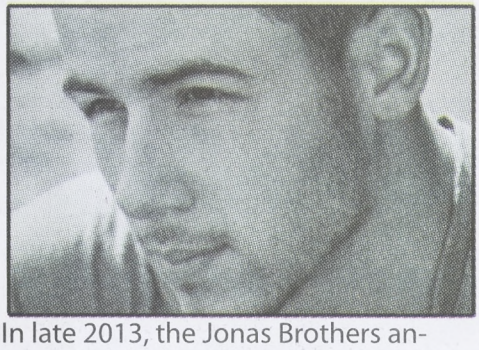
DIG NOW

BY: Francisco Flores

After 20 years, Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels are returning to the silver screen to reprise their roles in Dumb and Dumber To. This time around, the dynamic duo Harry set out to look for Harry's daughter. They will also serve as this film's co-directors. DDT will be released on Nov. 14 under Universal Pictures.

Jennifer Aniston will be reprising her role in the sequel along with Jason Sudeikis, Charlie Day and Jason Bateman. Horrible Bosses 2 will follow the male trio as they start their own company after dealing with "horrible bosses" their entire lives. The film is set to be released Nov. 26. Sean Anders will be directing the film.

The Hunger Games heads into the final stretch as it prepares its second-to-last film. The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 is set for release on Nov. 20. Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth will all reprise their roles. It will also feature the late Phillip Seymour Hoffman who passed away earlier this year.



In late 2013, the Jonas Brothers announced the band would separate, giving Nick Jonas a shot at a solo career. Jonas released his first single, "Chains," in July of this year followed by "Jealous" in September. His self-titled album is to be released Nov. 11 under Island Def Jam Records.

Earlier this year, Nicki Minaj released her latest smash hit, "Anaconda," to massive success. The song took over radio stations and the video was inescapable. Minaj also performed the song at this year's MTV Video Music Awards. Her latest album, The Pink Print is set for release on Nov. 24.

This "Summer," Calvin Harris released the first single off his new album, Motion. It was as an ode to everyone's favorite season. His newest single, "Blame," features England-native, John Newman. Ellie Goulding, Big Sean and Gwen Stefani are among the many featured artists on Motion, out Nov. 4.

On Nov. 4, Masterchef Junior returns for a second season on FOX. The reality competition will follow 16 children as they cook their way to a $100,000 cash prize. The cooking show has already been renewed for a third season by FOX. Gordon Ramsay, Joe Bastianich and Graham Elliot will all serve as judges for a second time this season.

HBO's The Newsroom follows a fictional political television station and its behind-the-scenes drama and conspiracies. The Newsroom returns for its third and final season on Nov. 9. The show was created by Aaron Sorkin. The final season will only have six episodes and a compressed storyline.

Katherine Heigl will return to TV with a new show for NBC, State of Affairs. The show follows Charleston (Heigl) as she sorts through crises burning through the nation for the president, played by Alfre Woodard. The show is set to premiere on Nov. 17.

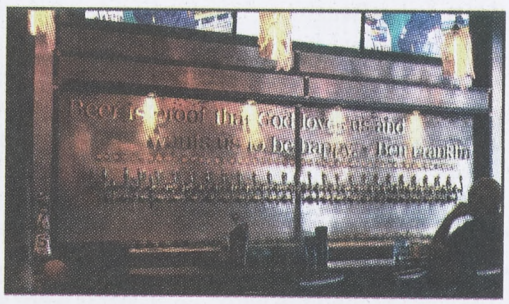
Tapping into Bo-Beau

Written by David Huynh

To say that the foodie movement has taken over would be an understatement and it is not necessarily a bad thing either. The one key thing that this food craze has brought forth is all the untapped, raw, and creative cuisine from chefs all over the globe. Food is the new universal language and we all speak it fluently. Long Beach has been a destination for cuisine for quite some time now, but ever since the foodie boom Long Beach now has hotspots that can hold their own. One of the hotspots is BO-beau kitchen + roof tap located on Pine Ave. in Downtown Long Beach.

BO-beau kitchen + roof tap is approximately 14,000 square feet of boho-chic interior with an industrial edge that is as visually appealing as it is inviting. Bo-beau has the physical presence to be a hotspot but we all know that isn't all. On the second floor of Bo-beau there is a brick-and-mortar inspired scene that serves 50 rotating taps year round that will tickle your every fancy no matter if you like thicker brews or light ales or IPA's, and as if that wasn't enough to blow your mind Bo-beau has some of the most succulent dishes around.

Executive Chef Katherine Humphus delights us with her creativity on classic French dishes by adding modern twists. Some of the most celebrated dishes at Bo-beau are the crispy brussel sprouts that are beautifully dusted with pancetta, balsamic, and parmesan. Another favorite dish is the brown butter seared scallops with pear-marscarpone ravioli. Need I say more?



Photos by Gabriela Mungarro

I had the opportunity to ask Humphus what her favorite dish is and she enthusiastically shared with me that it was none other than the duck confit fettuccini because, "it's so rich, it warms the soul." The menu at Bo-beau changes about four times a year so that they are always fresh with beautiful dishes that help embrace the seasons and their patron's taste buds. When asked if Humphus could use one word to describe Bo-beau she decided on the word "enchanting" and I would have to agree with her.

Here is where I give you all the essentials about Bo-beau that will help maximize your experience. Bo-beau is open every day and offers a "social hour" Monday through Friday from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. where you can have a great time exploring all the options on tap. The Bo-beau kitchen is open daily at 4:30 p.m. downstairs, and the Bo-beau roof tap is open upstairs at 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

I would urge you all to go to Bo-beau so that you may be enchanted by Chef Humphus' passionate dishes and allow the ambiance inside to transport you and your friends to nirvana. This is the place to be!

Exchanging Perspectives

International Students Offer Their Impressions of Our School

Edel Bertine Dirdal

Home Institution: Université de Paris 13, France.
Major: Political Science and Sociology
Why did you choose CSULB?
I picked CSULB because I wanted to go to Calif. and experience the So-Cal life style that everybody wants. I was aware that it's one of the healthiest states in America, and as I was quite concerned with a bad American lifestyle it made the choice easier.
What were your first impressions of the campus?
The university is amazing. It's so big and there are so many different places to eat, shop and meet people. The activities and organizations that are available to students are unreal. Last but certainly not least, the gym. It's the best gym I've seen in my life! I use it all the time and the staff is so helpful.
What are the differences between here and your home institution?
I think the biggest difference is the campus. It's two different worlds that I can't really compare. I love CSULB's campus; it's like a dream.

Elliot Button

Home Institution: University of Leicester, United Kingdom
Major: Criminal Justice
Why did you choose CSULB?
I chose CSULB because of its diverse population. In relation to my studies, CSULB will allow me to learn and experience different practices and attitudes towards policing and correcting criminals. Plus, there are a bunch of sightseeing opportunities so close to LA!
What were your first impressions of the campus?
I noticed a very unique way of living. There are a lot more social interactions between members of the public, and a very laid-back lifestyle.
What are the differences between here and your home institution?
The change in climate was the biggest difference, but I welcomed it with open arms. In terms of classes, the way I get assessed is very different to Leicester. I'm used to much larger assignments/exams over the duration of the semester, as opposed to continual assessment through quizzes and tests.

Abbie Northwood

Home Institution: University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom.
Major: Mass Communications
Why did you choose Cal State Long Beach?
The close proximity of the campus to local attractions and Los Angeles was the main reason. Having never been to the US before, Calif. has been a place I have always wanted to see. The chance to study abroad at CSULB provided me with this opportunity, whilst also allowing me to gain the experience of American college life.
What were your first impressions of the campus?
I was a little overwhelmed at just how big it is, but also how pretty it is. Now that I've settled in a bit more, it's nowhere near as daunting.
What are the differences between here and your home institution?
Having to crash classes was a massive difference. The thought of turning up to a class I didn't have a seat in was pretty frightening… Luckily it turned out fine!

Kaitlyn Lawrence

Home Institution: University of Queensland, Australia
Major: Journalism and Psychology
Why did you choose CSULB?
I chose CSULB because of its wide-array of sporting programs. Since I arrived here, I've played rugby, water polo and surfed with the school at Huntington Beach. I'm also a regular at the Student Recreation and Wellness Center - I love the rock climbing wall!
What were your first impressions of the campus?
Its absolutely massive, but I've found that you are almost guaranteed to walk around and still bump into people that you know.
What are the differences between here and your home institution?
Although my university at home is quite big, it is dwarfed by CSULB. The wide range of kinesiology classes also pleasantly surprised me, as these aren't offered back home in Australia. I'm not sure whether this is typical of...CSULB, but I absolutely love them, especially surfing!

Design With the Drought in Mind

Landscaping Tips From Local Landscape Designer Barbara Paul

By Kathy Fox

These colorful plants are all drought-tolerant.

Barbara Paul

Photos provided by www.gardenssss.com

Barbara Paul is a local landscape designer who teaches classes on drought tolerant landscapes at the Long Beach Water Department headquarters. The program is designed to provide its students with professional consulting services as we've been trudging through an exceptional drought.

Recently, many people have been looking for ways to conserve water and make do with the necessary changes. Having your own garden aimed towards drought-tolerant and low-water using plant materials is a good start to reassess for a drought.

What got you interested in landscape architecture?

I am a designer, not an architect. There is a difference - architects, while some are involved with plant material placement, tend to be more focused on structural issues. As a landscape designer, my education and my practice focuses on overall design from a horticultural perspective.

Being so drought-tolerant garden friendly, have you ever lived in a colder environment/ do you prefer the hotter areas?

I grew up in eastern Canada and have lived in California for about 30 years. Both climates are interesting. The important thing, from a landscape design perspective, is to understand the area in which you practice and to create designs appropriate to their location on the planet.

Do you think that having a well arranged garden further accentuates a person's individual personality? But beyond that, would also be able to instill a sense of balance?

Good design incorporates balance in all aspects - color, placement of objects, ease of use, appropriateness for the environment. Landscape design is more than 3 dimensional design. Properly done, it also takes into account the element of Time. Plants grow and change with time and that must be taken into account at the beginning.

How did the concept of drought-tolerant plants and gardens come up?

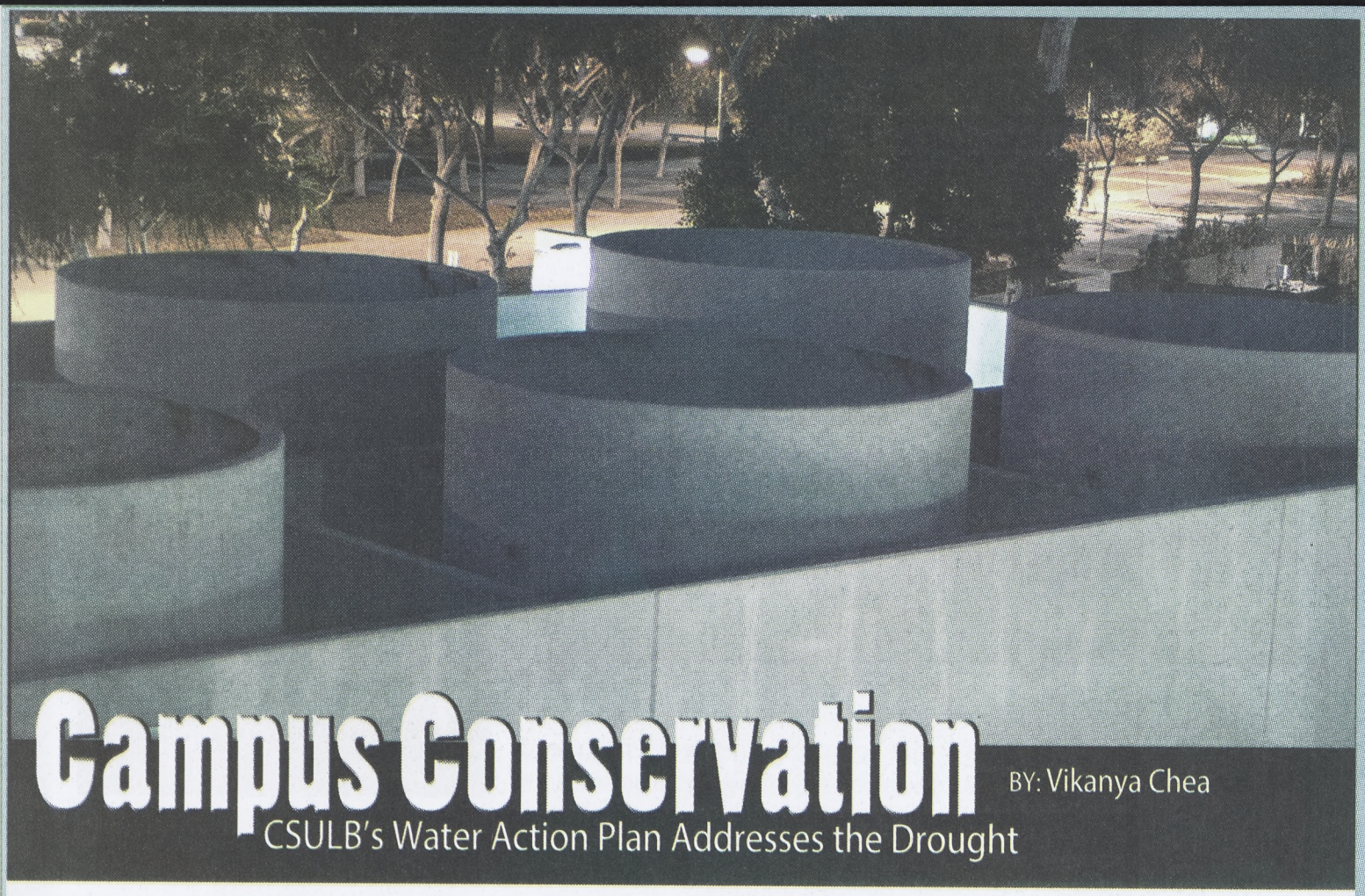
Southern California is in a mediterranean climate zone - characterized by warm, dry summers and cool, relatively wet winters. It is appropriate that we landscape using plant material that is naturally adapted to such a region, hence my interest in drought tolerant plant material.

What's the easiest thing people can do to make their landscaping more drought-tolerant?

Educate themselves about plant material that is appropriate for their situation or hire a professional who possesses that knowledge.

Any comments or additional input you would like to add to the readers of DIG?

The key to developing a successful landscape is to plant a garden that is in harmony with the natural environment, both from a horticultural and a style standpoint.



Campus Conservation

CSULB's Water Action Plan Addresses the Drought

BY: Vikanya Chea

Students bustle around campus eating at the food court, refilling their water bottles, and washing their hands in the bathroom. Every action is so transient that almost no one notices how much water they consume on a day-to-day basis.

Cal State Long Beach Energy and Sustainability Manager Paul Wingco provided CSULB's Water Action Plan, dated July 2014, an on-going effort to combat and lessen its footprint on the matter of the drought.

According to the documents, CSULB consumes an average of 25 million cubic feet of water every year. This is enough water to fill nearly 300 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

However, Wingco said it isn't too late for the student population to take part in the water conservation effort. "Students can help [by] communicating to other students about the water crisis and … do their part in trying to save water," Wingco said. "It doesn't really matter if it's here, on campus, or in their residences. It all matters."

The steps toward the water action plan started on January 17, 2014 when Governor Brown "proclaimed a State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for these drought conditions," according to the Office of Governor website. Brown urges Californians to reduce their water usage by 20 percent.

In response, Interim Executive Vice Chancellor Sally F. Roush issued a memorandum to Cal State campuses on Feb. 4, notifying them to take the State of Emergency as an opportunity to rethink and reduce water use, where possible.

Because the plan was only developed two months ago, Wingco said it's "too early to tell" if the measures taken or about-to-be-taken will reduce the campus' water consumption.

"We're going to take a look at our usage at the end of the fiscal year and see compared to previous years' usage [to] see where we stand…we're still shooting for 20 percent," Wingco said.

Some of the most water-consuming systems on campus include landscape irrigation, domestic water use, swimming pools, and heating and air conditioning via the Central Plant.

Although the bottle-refilling centers scattered around campus do eject water, Wingco said he doesn't think it affects the goal of reaching 20 percent less consumption. He said it reduces the campus' reliance on single-use bottles, and it also saves energy and water because the bottles are manufactured in the first place.

Measures such as moving to drought tolerant landscaping, installing touch-free automatic faucets with low flow restrictors, and using weather-based central irrigation controllers have been taken to reduce the campus' impact.

In order to launch many of these projects, Wingco said that the campus must look at the operation funds, which translates into internal funds. However, because there is an existing partnership with the Long Beach Water Department, Wingco said there are possible external funds as well.

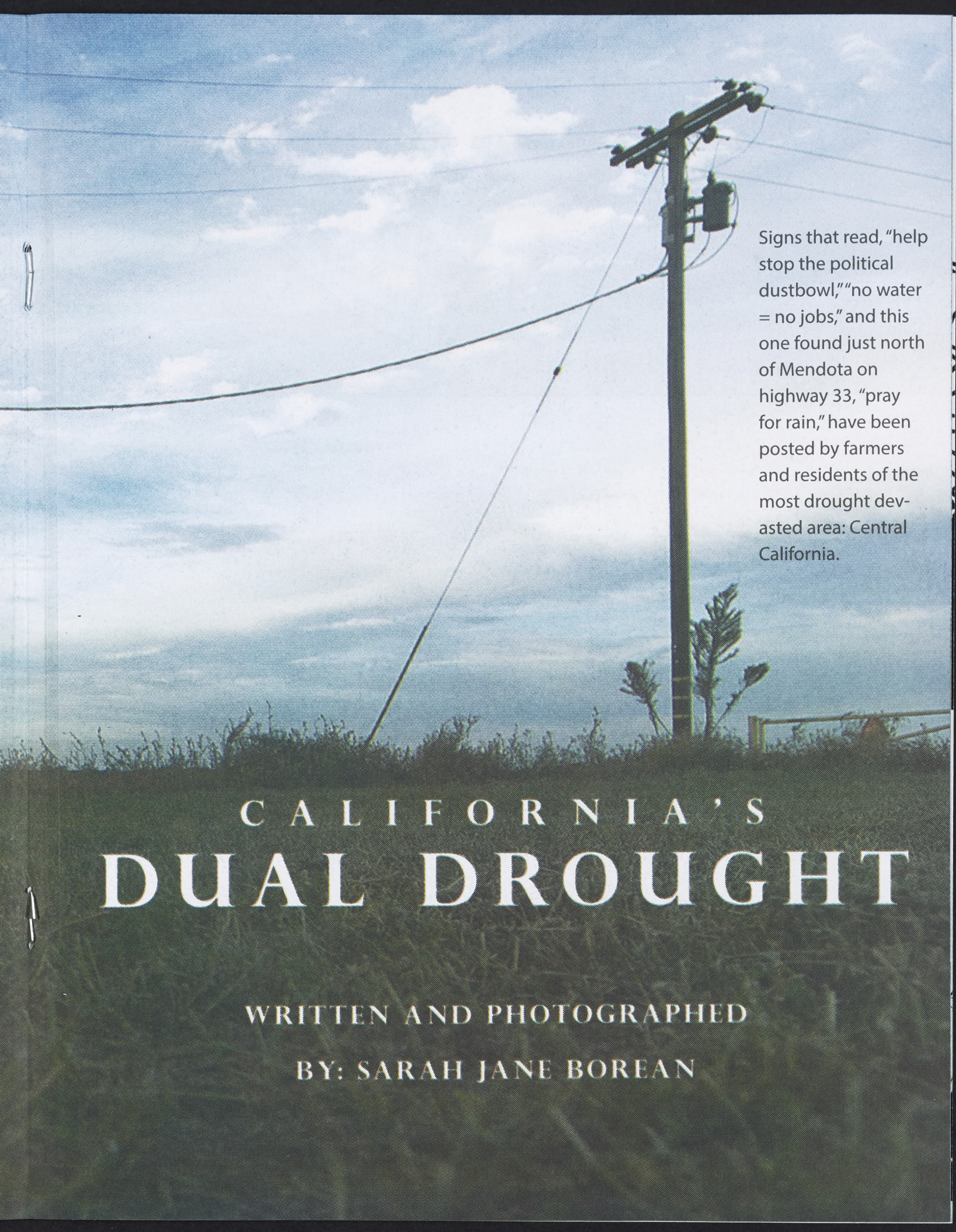
" ... [W]e're looking to replace close to 200 toilets...we're also looking to get some incentives from [the] Long Beach Water [Department]," he said. "Approximately 100 dollars per toilet. It's combining those two to really make it cost-effective."

Currently there are over 100 practices in the plan, with 80 of them currently being practiced.

Wingco said a 20 percent reduction goal is not something to be trifled with, but the effort to reduce goes a long way. "Twenty percent, on its own, is pretty aggressive," he said. "But it doesn't hurt to try our best because it will only help everywhere else. The drought is not just on our campus; it's the whole state."

Photos by Ariadna Vazquez

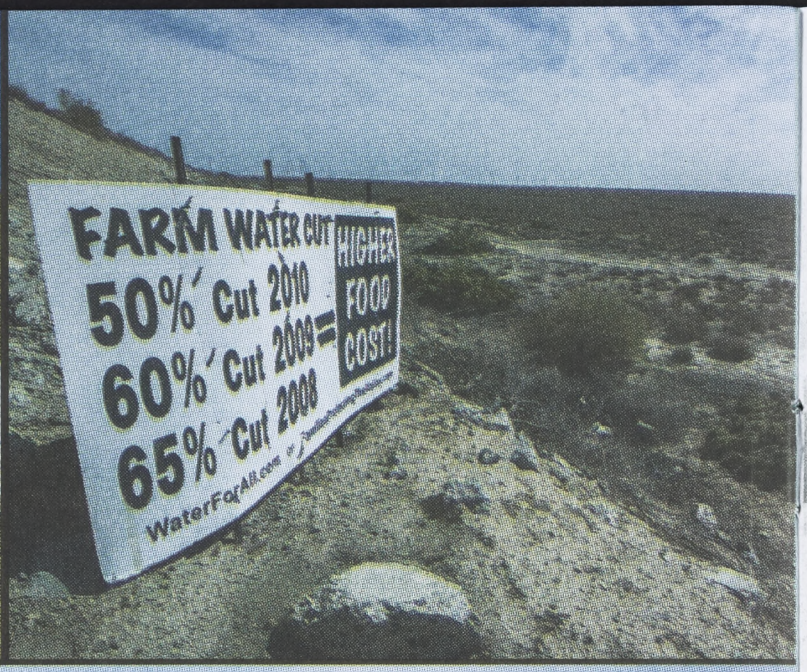
PRAY FOR RAIN



Signs that read, "help stop the political dustbowl," "no water = no jobs," and this one found just north of Mendota on highway 33, "pray for rain," have been posted by farmers and residents of the most drought devasted area: Central California.

CALIFORNIA'S DUAL DROUGHT

WRITTEN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY: SARAH JANE BOREAN



Top left: The spillway at Don Pedro Lake has been dry since the big flood in 1997. The lake has a capacity of 755,855 acre feet (one acre wide by one foot deep) but currently holds only 37 percent of that total capacity, while the historical average for this time is 57 percent.

Middle: A sign on interstate 5, depicts the amoTunt of water allocated to farmers, suggesting that its direct impact on food supplies.

Bottom left: Rod Cardella stands near the edge of his property line, which backs up to the San Luis canal, a major contributor of water to the California Aqueduct.

Top right: Hundreds of acres on Rod Cardella's farm near Mendota, Calif., went unplanted this year due to the lack of water allocated by the state.

Right Page : The Parrots Ferry Bridge crossing New Melones Lake sits almost fully exposed on Oct. 17, 2014. New Melones Lake is the fourth largest reservoir in California and was last at full capacity (hitting the visibly exposed tree-line) in 2011. Park Ranger Eric Brewer says the largest impact from the low water levels has been on recreational use, which also directly impacts the economy of the surrounding communities.

Driving up the hills of California, just north of Bakersfield, an apparent state of emergency can be seen.

Ten months later the effects of this disaster can be seen in the state's rapidly receding reservoirs and on the farms of central California.

According to Gayle Holman, Westlands Water District public affairs representative, there is a dualsided drought happening in California.

On one side, Holman says, is a weather related drought driven by the last three consecutive years of record breaking dry seasons for the state. On the other, a regulatory drought that is due to the biological opinions protecting fish species living in the delta.

The 2014 water year ended on September 30, leaving California in the third driest precipitation year in its recorded history, according to the California Department of Water Recourses web site. This data is extremely noticeable when visiting almost any reservoir in California.

A central California farmer of 45 years, Rod Cardella, says he understands mother nature will have its highs and lows, but what frustrates him the most is the decisions state politicians have made regarding the amount of water to be taken out of the delta and allocated to farming districts.Cardella's water district got a record breaking 0% allocation for 2014.

"I'm feeding people," Cardella said. "That's my job and yet I have to fight to convince people that what I'm doing is helping everybody, I have a real hard time trying to understand that."

Brown Is The New Green

Effects of the Drought in Long Beach

BY: Brooke Becher

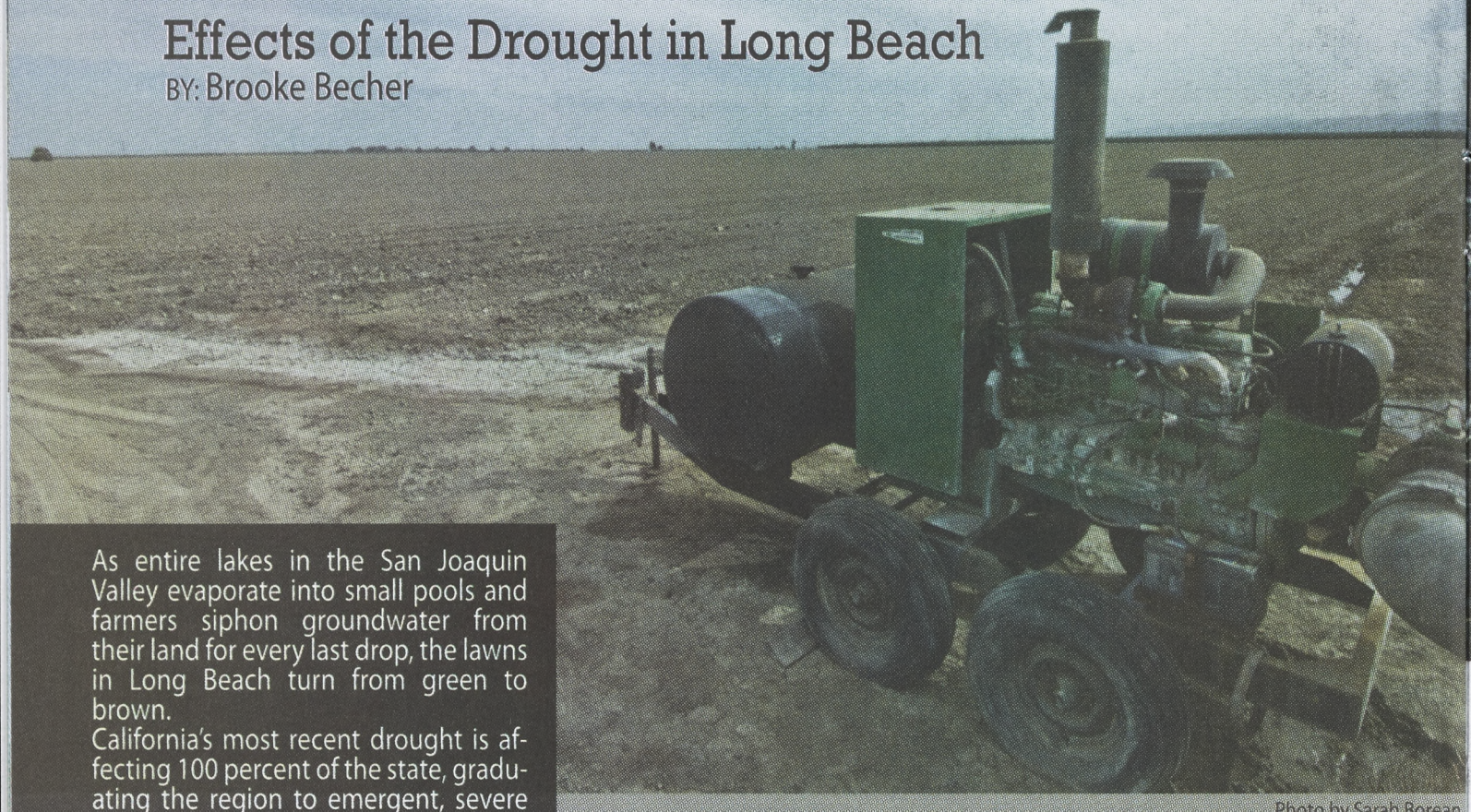


Photo by Sarah Borean

An old water pump sits at the edge of what was once fully planted farmland, near Mendota, Calif.

As entire lakes in the San Joaquin Valley evaporate into small pools and farmers siphon groundwater from their land for every last drop, the lawns in Long Beach turn from green to brown.

California's most recent drought is affecting 100 percent of the state, graduating the region to emergent, severe conditions. Residents of even the most prepared cities -- like Long Beach -- are beginning to see some of its immediate consequences

"We have a diversity of [water] sources here … but there are some places in California that are running out," said Dr. Suzanne Dallman, Cal State Long Beach Associate Professor of Geography and former full-term five-year Long Beach Water Commissioner. "Their reservoirs run dry and they're out of luck. They have to buy water. They have to truck water in."

LONG BEACH'S REACTION

2014 is California's record-warmest year in 118 years of record-keeping, says the National Weather Service

A couple of dry winters and only six inches of annual rainfall later, the statewide warnings became hefty municipal restrictions that trickled into the Long Beach way of life.

In January, California Governor Brown declared a drought State of Emergency. By the end of February, the Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners had declared an "Imminent Water Supply Shortage" that proposed a four-step water conservation plan adopted by the City of Long Beach.

This plan prohibits residents from watering their lawns on any day outside of Monday, Thursday and Saturday between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., public places from serving drinking water to customers before ordered and landscapes from being irrigated for more than 10 to 20 minutes depending on the owner's sprinkler heads.

"The [Long Beach] Water Department doesn't really have the staff to police it," said Dallman. "Private water companies are profit-making institutions, municipal utilities are not. We can't raise rates just to punish people." Long Beach sources more than half of its own groundwater, pumped from active wells within the city, and imports the rest from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The ratio of imported water to groundwater has decreased, driving Long Beach in the direction of water self-sustainability.

Other programs to promote long-term water conservation are in effec

Rebate programs like SoCal Watersmart have reserved almost 300 water-efficient devices residentially- and 7,000 commercially in August, according to the Long Beach Water Department's website.

Photo by Sarah Borean

A harvested cotton field on highway 33 lay barren in Oct. 2014

EFFECTS ON FARMING

When you're talking about fruits and vegetables bought in Long Beach, whether it's the orange that has been laced in preservatives and used as a hacky sack by 10 year olds running amok in a Vons somewhere or the orange being sold fresh for a bargain at a local farmers market, it most likely came from a farm just outside of the city.

Water restrictions on that farmland…

As a result, prices will soon rise, like the cornstalks used to.

"City regulation reduced watering by 20 percent. There's less produce to sell, so prices go up," said Chris Glass, a partner to his brother's farm in Oxnard, as he husked and hacked away at the pale, faded-yellow corn at a farmer's market in Cerritos, one of the six certified markets hosted by Harbor Area Farmers Markets (HAFM). "It really does affect everything from the bottom up."

Of the six markets, HAFM hosts three of them in Long Beach in uptown near Bixby Knolls, downtown near 3rd and Pacific St. and in southeast regions of the city near Marine Stadium. There is one market held on every day of the week except Tuesdays at different times.

Dale Whitney, 25-year HAFM's market manager, said that every farmer has a story about how they are handling the drought.

The old man's fluorescent, highlighter-yellow shirt reflected his light attitude even when speaking of bleak stories he's heard from the farmers who work within his six-market circuit about their threatened livelihoods.

"He's not even doing as many markets as he used to, " Whitney said about a cherry farmer named Mike Hopkins after trouble he faced within the blooming season. Farmers settling with less of a variety or limiting their rounds in the markets are some of the patterns Whitney has seen this year.

Arnulfo Garcia has been farming since 1972 at his family farm in Kingsburg. He is completely reliant on his own groundwater well since the city has cut off all irrigation for farmers in his area. The city re quires farmers to add their name onto a six-month waiting list for request of drilling a new well, the only alternative before purchasing water.

"Let's say in the middle of the season the pump goes out," said Garcia, "Then I'm done. It's a long waiting list."

For Ronnie Gonzaga, importing water is the only option to keep his crops alive.

He owns four farms. Two of his most prominent lands are in Tara Bella where he grows tangerines and Strathmore where his best-selling jujubes grow.

"I have 30 acres of dead trees," he said, noting that instead of buying water, it's more practical to dig up and replant the trees entirely. In his district, water is around $1800 per acre-foot. "I only water the jujube because that's the one that makes money."

"I used to harvest about 300 beans on the hill, now if I'm lucky I will harvest 10 beans," he said.

Others like Massis Boujikian said that it's all a matter of being prepared.

"Everyone's affected in one way or another, but not necessarily us," said Boujikan of Boujikian Family Farms in Raisin City, south of Fresno. "We have our

own drills, we have our own pumps. We had put drip lines on everything at our farms from the very beginning to save water 30 years ago."

He has worked with his brother since before 1983 farming and selling a variety of nuts and dried fruit. Business had been as good as ever since their market sold out for the first time two to three weeks ago.

"In Florida, they have meters and you have to pay per gallon," Boujikian said. "I don't know why they don't do that in California, then people would stop wasting water."

Photo by Sarah Borean

Tumble weeds sit on what used to be a fully planted farmland in Central California.

LOOKING FORWARD

So, what's our crisis point?

"I'm not sure anyone knows that," said Dallman. "We always have wet and dry cycles here. That is our normal here. We need to have the infrastructure and have the policies in place to adapt."

In the most advanced of stages, cities have instilled residential and commercial ration plans in the past. California's conditions in the 1970s had government officials writing up fat fines for incompliance as opposed to Los Angeles County's more gentle, educational approach during the lighter 2009 drought, touching on residents' civic duties, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti announced a water conservation plan in mid October setting periodic goals for residents with the threat of harsher rules being instated if they're not met. The LA Times reported that Garcetti hopes to reduce water use by 20%.

"I don't know if we'll actually get to rationing," said Dallman. "I think the biggest challenge for the [Long Beach] Water Department is keeping people's interest in conservation."

Conservation, One Drop At A Time

A Handful of Ways to Hold Your Water Use

Written by Tim Dickerson

Californians are aware that the state is in a serious drought. Gov. Jerry Brown declared a drought State of Emergency to prepare for this. And according to the Association of California Water Agencies, some parts of the state have difficulty meeting water demands even in normal years. While people can't create more water, they can do simple things in their daily lives to save water. There are websites online like WaterUseItWisely.com that give helpful tips on how to save water.

Here are some tips for saving water:

Download the "Report A Water Waster" app on Google Play

The city of Long Beach has an app available for download. With this app, people can upload photos and send messages to report water violations. So if a neighbor is watering his driveway, a quick snapshot with the app will send it into the city. People without smartphones can report violations on LBWater.org.

Take shorter showers

This is a tip that everyone can make a difference with. According to WaterUseItWisely.com, cutting a minute or two from showers will save up to 150 gallons of water per month. It is recommended that showers should be kept under five minutes. And a full bathtub can use 70 gallons of water, so take showers instead of baths. If it's necessary to take a bath, try filling the tub halfway or less.

Collect unused water for other purposes

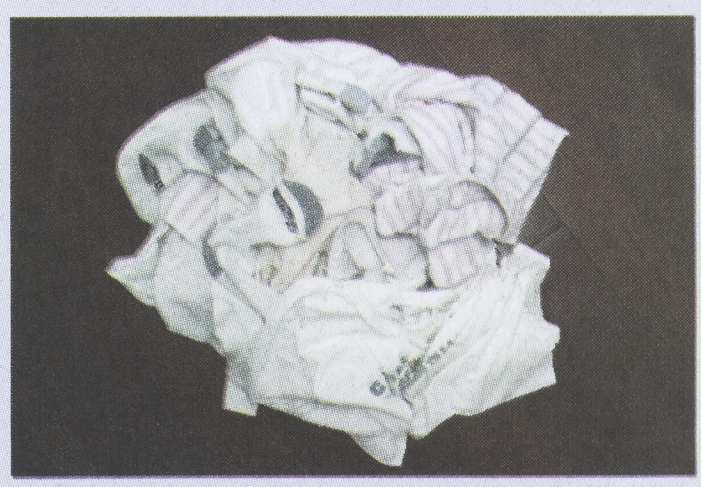
When the water in the shower is warming up, it is common for people to let the water drain until it's just the right temperature. Instead of wasting all of that cold water, collect it in a container and use that water for things like watering the lawn or plants. Even when washing fruits and vegetables, collect that water to use it for other purposes.

Don't use water to thaw frozens

Many people use running water to thaw frozen foods, especially frozen meat. A lot of people use this method because it's easy and convenient, but it is highly wasteful. Try defrosting your food overnight in the refrigerator or by leaving it in the sink for a couple hours. If this is too time consuming and you want the quick fix running water provides, you can use the defrost setting on your microwave.

Check for leaks around your home

Surprisingly, many homes have hidden water leaks. When no water is being used, check your water meter and see if the meter reads the same after a couple hours. If it doesn't read exactly the same then you have a leak. If you're not sure where the leak is coming from, make sure to check your toilet tank first. Add about 10 drops of food coloring into the tank and let it sit for at least 15 to 30 minutes. If color appears in the bowl, then you have a leak. Make sure to flush after the test is done so you don't leave any stains.



Photos by Joana Villegas

iGENERATION

tech-savvy

BY: Daniel Goldsbary

The freshest generation to be named is thought by older generations to be vain or narcissistic, with their endless selfies quickly snapped via smartphone and the multiple social networking platforms used to gain praise for them. It seems that no one can really settle on a specific time frame during which they were born, but they seem to be closely related to the Millennials.

Generation Z is largely comprised of those who are just now entering college. This group was raised in a world where online communication was the norm since childhood; they don't know anything else. Having to rely only upon land mail is a foreign concept, and heading to a friend's house without texting prior to leaving is unheard of. Communication during class is now much more advanced than artistically folded handwritten notes.

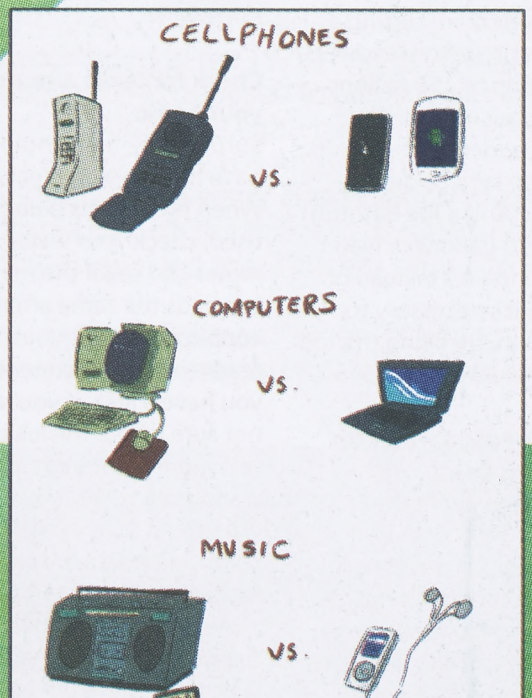
While there are aspects of smartphones that are not entirely productive or beneficial, the very notion of what they provide is frighteningly powerful. It's a lifeline to parents, friends, and emergency services. It's a navigational tool. It can be a portable encyclopedia. It can connect people that would have never spoken or met in their lifetimes had this form of technology not existed. We've gone through the spectrum of technology, from hulking PCs hogging desk space to the most recent release: the Apple watch, which is essentially a more powerful computer than any of those old PCs ever could have been, and it can be worn on your wrist.

With the advent of online social networking, a new avenue has opened for aspiring stars or hopeful revolutionaries. All a person needs is a YouTube account and some marketable entertainment skills or a powerful message. And followers, we can't forget about those. Without followers, our constant posting of personal information and photos couldn't be viewed as anything other than narcissistic. Gaining exposure no longer calls for a cross-country trip to Hollywood, the glitz encrusted hub with a rotting underbelly that can eat you up and spit you out.

Obviously the ability to communicate with strangers on the Internet poses many risks. This generation has given birth to a new form of deception commonly known as catfishing, which is frequently portrayed on television as some insecure individual posing as someone more attractive in order to get people to communicate with them. What's not shown so openly is people who catfish with much more malicious intent. The infamous title of the craigslist killer was first attributed to Philip Markoff, an American medical student who was convicted of armed robbery and the murder of an innocent woman.

So where might the advancements in technology go? I feel that this constant advancement is a self-sustaining circle of supply and demand. Businesses can see technology growing and in turn adapt their services and operations accordingly, prompting companies like Apple to continue improving their products since it appears to be a consistent sales opportunity. The public then has to conform in order to succeed in these businesses, also buying into the new products. This self-perpetuating cycle is revving the engines on this technological revolution that seems to have been taking off in the past decade.

This generation could be on the cusp of greatness. Perhaps they will further realize the power at their fingertips where everything can be accessed from your phone. Different types of technology that used to be one-dimensional are now becoming more interactive and customizable, providing many possibilities for developers and users to change both the digital world and the one we live in. Users can gain fame, spread knowledge, start a revolution, connect with far-off cultures and generations, and access a plethora of information all with just their thumbs.



Cartoon by: Daniela Gonzales

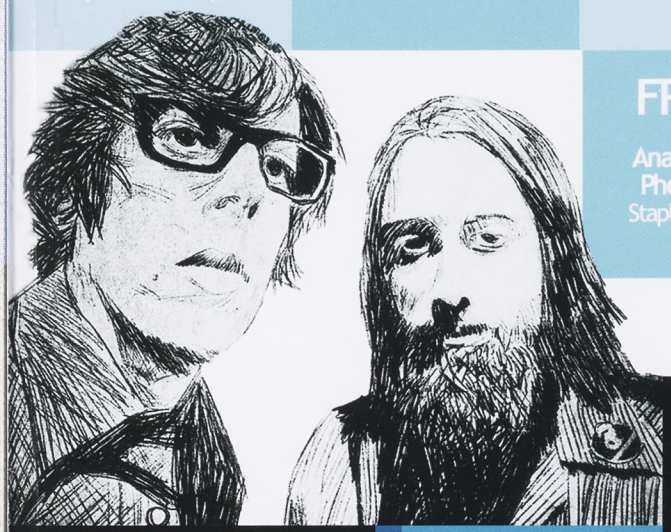
NOVEMBER

SATURDAY 1
An Evenin with Richard Marx
El Rey Theatre | 9 pm

SUNDAY 2
HARD Day of the Dead
Pomona Fairplex

MONDAY 3
LA Clippers vs Utah Jazz
Staples Center | 7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY 5
Mariachi El Bronx
El Rey Theatter | 9 pm



FRIDAY 7
Anaheim Ducks vs Phoenix Coyotes
Staples Center | 7 pm

SUNDAY 9
Mac DeMarco
The Fonda Theater | 9 pm

SATURDAY 8
LA Kings vs Vancouver Canucks
Staples Center | 7 pm

The 3rd Annual Camp Flow Gnaw Carnival
Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum | 2 pm

THURSDAY 6
The Black Keys
The Forum | 8 pm

Julian Casablancas & The Voidz
The Wiltern | 7 pm

TUESDAY 11
Veterans Day
Shakey Graves
El Rey Theater | 9 pm

WEDNESDAY 12
First Aid Kit
The Wiltern | 7 pm

THURSDAY 13
LA Kings vs Dallas Stars
Staples Center | 7:30 pm

FRIDAY 14
Flying Lotus
The Wiltern | 8 pm

SATURDAY 15
The Psychedelic Furs and the Lemonheads
The Fonda Theatre | 9 pm
Women's Volleyball vs UC Santa Barbara
The Pyramid | 7 pm

SUNDAY 16
Concert Jazz Orchestra
Cole Conservatory of Music | 4 pm

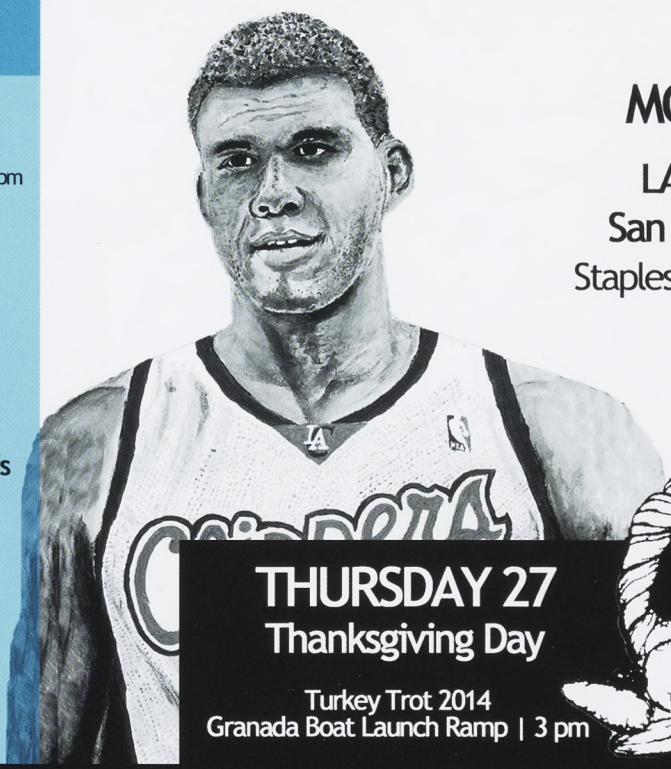
WEDNESDAY 19
Let's Make A Deal
CBS Studios | 1 pm

SUNDAY 23
The Jive Aces: King of the Swingers
Carpenter Center | 2 pm

WEDNESDAY 26
Jason Stuart and Friends
The Laugh Factory | 8 pm

FRIDAY 28
Black Friday
President's Day

SATURDAY 29
Chet Faker
Mack Sennett Studios | 8 pm



MONDAY 10
LA Clippers vs San Antonio Spurs
Staples Center | 7:30 pm

THURSDAY 27
Thanksgiving Day

Turkey Trot 2014
Granada Boat Launch Ramp | 3 pm

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